AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 8, line 28, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 5 shows (a) primers used to prepare template DNA (SEQ ID NOS: 2-7) for site-selective introduction of 5Iy into RNA 9A, along with (b) the sequence of RNA 9A (SEQ ID NO: 1). In (a), each site containing the unnatural base s is expressed as s. In (b), sequence regions of RNA 9A where 5Iy is introduced are underlined. --

On page 9, line 6, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 6 shows the site-selective introduction of 5Iy into RNA 9A.

a) Electrophoresis autoradiogram of transcription products obtained in the presence (+) or absence (-) of 0.25 mM 5Iy. The positions where 5Iy is introduced are indicated, along with the full-length position for each product (on the left side).

b) The positions where 5Iy is introduced are marked with solid circles on the secondary structure of RNA 9A(SEQ ID NO: 1). –

On page 10, line 15, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 10 shows that the crosslinking reaction product (XL) of RNA(5ly87) is a dimerization product of 9A and binds to 2 molecules of GST-RBD. a-d) Binding between each RNA and GST-RBD was analyzed by gel shift assay. ee) The respective sequences of RNA (a-d) are shown (SEQ ID NOS: 1, 11, 12). Regions different from those of the original RNA 9A sequence are in bold type and underlined. --

On page 11, line 13, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 13 shows the secondary structure of RNA 9A (SEQ ID NO: 1). The secondary structure of RNA 9A was estimated by limited hydrolysis with RNase and chemical modification. Constant regions are indicated in lower case letters, while random regions are indicated in upper case letters. The cleavage pattern with RNase and modification patterns with alkylating agents (DMS and CMCT) are separately mapped on the secondary structure. Sequence regions where chemical modification is footprinted in the presence of Raf-1 GST-RBD are marked with open circles. --

On page 12, line 19, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 19 shows the site-selective introduction of Bio-yTP (Compound 6) and Bio^2-yTP (Compound 13) into RNA (SEQ ID NOS: 10, 8, 13, 14). This figure shows an electrophoresis autoradiogram of transcription products obtained in the presence (+) or absence

(-) of 1 mM Bio-yTP or Bio^2-yTP. The lengths of products introduced with and without Bio-yTP or Bio^2-yTP are indicated with arrows on the right and left sides, respectively. --